Nothing turns longed-for time off into an ordeal faster than a cybersecurity incident. Criminals target vacationers because you’re in relaxation mode, and your guard may be down. Know what to do (and not to do) to protect yourself and your sensitive information when away from home.

**It Happened Here!**

**Treat your device like gold.**
An HCA Healthcare employee traveled to Disney World and a friendly stranger offered to take her photo with her family – then he ran off with her HCA Healthcare-issued phone! Security footage wasn’t helpful and the thief got away.

**In another case ...** A colleague at the airport laid her phone on top of her suitcase while getting her tickets out of her backpack. Someone walked by and scooped it up. She ran after him, but he handed the phone off to someone else. When security stopped the thief they couldn’t do anything because he didn’t have the phone on him.
Before Takeoff

- **Set up the “Find My” feature on your phone.** Not only will this help locate your phone if lost or stolen, it gives you the power to remotely wipe data.
- If you’re traveling for pleasure, you are encouraged to **leave work behind**, including any work devices.
- **Research the area and know what locations are less safe.** Be aware of weather and the possibility for natural disasters.
- Take photos or **make copies of every important document** you’re taking.
- **Check that location sharing is turned off for your device and any apps you use.**

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**Traveling internationally?**

Contact your manager before leaving. They can help determine if you should travel with your HCA Healthcare-issued device (in some countries the risk of theft is too great) and explain **how to connect to our network while abroad**. Check your destination for country-specific health risks and safety concerns through the **U.S. Department of States Travel Advisory Lists.**

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Wheels Up

- **Keep all your devices with you, not in checked bags.**
- **Choose safe transportation and always wear a seat belt.** Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death among
- **Don’t use public Wi-Fi.** Use the password-protected hot spot on your phone to check email.
- **Don’t use free charging stations.** Malware can be
healthy travelers. Take your time crossing streets, especially in countries where they drive on the left side of the road.

- loaded onto public USB charging stations to infect any device you plug in.
- **Don’t post about your vacation until you return.** Otherwise you make your home a target for thieves.

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**Learn About Disinformation**

In the latest episode of the IPS podcast, Caleb Chitwood, Manager of Threat Intelligence Services, talks about new methods and technologies used in information operations to erode trust and impact public opinion.

Listen to *"No Time to Lie"* on all major podcast platforms and MediaConnect! Just search *“From IPS with Love.”*